

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 28, 1978

The County Council meeting was opened by Chairman Phinney, with the opening prayer by Mr. Cox. All Members present, as was Department Heads and news media.

Minutes of the February 7th meeting were approved as furnished. Motion made by Mr. Cox seconded by Mr. Herring and carried.

A letter expressing appreciation and thanks to Col. Tom Ramsey for his years of service to Oconee County as a Member of the Appalachian Council of Governments since its beginning, was presented to Col Ramsey by Councilman Ables.

County Recreation Director, Ben Sullivan's request for approval of Phase 1 of the PRT August request which is tennis courts at South Cove Park was approved. Mr. Bailes made the motion to front \$8500 for this project, one half of which will be paid by BOR funds. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Council agreed to transfer \$60.00 from the Arts Commission budget 06-8000L (dues) to 06 1801L (out of county travel). Mr. Moore made the motion, Mr. Bailes seconded.

Mr. Bailes moved to require departments requesting additional monies for telephones to make an anylsls of their phone bills for last year and this year showing flat monthly rate, any costs for installation, long distance calls, etc and why the need for any increase. Mr. Ables seconded and all voted in favor. It was also suggested a memorandum be issued requesting a log be kept of all long distance calls. It was also agreed for the Purchasing Department to charge calls back to departments when calls are necessary in making purchases.

Animal Shelter Manager, Sallie Kudra, requested additonal funds in the amount of \$165.68 for gasoline. This was approved.

Sheriff Myron Green briefed Council on the operations and functions of his office and requested additional personnel (two detectives, two Sergeants(to come from his present force) and two additional deputies to replace those promoted to sergeants, one I D Officer and two full time and one part time dispatcher. This would help cut the working hours of his force from 60 to 40 hours per week. Sheriff Green also reported his communications system would soon be connected with the Highway Patrol and other law enforcement agencies in this district.

Ordinance #78-1 "Sewer Ordinance of 1978" was passed on 1st Reading upon a motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas. The vote was 8 Yes and 0 No.

Resolution #78-1 agreeing to fund the five cities an additional \$100,000 from federal revenue sharing funds. This \$100,000 is to be distributed between the cities and is earmarked for improvements to their existing water/sewer systems. Mr. Bailes made the motion to adopt this Resolution, Mr. Cox seconded and the vote was 7 Yes and 0 No (one abstained Mr. Crain).

Mr. Ables requested a study be made as to what revenue sharing funds are going for services to the rural area as opposed to cities.

An agreement which states that Oconee County will pass on 2nd

and 3rd Reading Ordinance 78-1 " Sewer Ordinance of 1978" was passed by a vote of 8 Yes and 0 No. The motion introducing this agreement which is to be forwarded to the cities was made by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried to approve the contract with Piedmont Engineers for engineering services in connection with the sewer project.

Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried to approve the contract with the Law Firm of Fedder, Derrick, Ritter and Williams for legal services in connection with the sewer project.

Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried to approve the contract for auditing services for the sewer system to Neil Byerley CPA Firm of Seneca.

A letter of appreciation for his devoted services to Oconee County as a Member of the Appalachian Council of Governments was read and presented to C. Dick Plyler on behalf of County Council by Mr. Ables.

Councilman Thomas reported the Law Enforcement Committee has decided the Crime Assistance Officer would be working for the Director of the Law Enforcement Center and he so moved. Mr. Ables seconded and the vote was 7 Yes and 1 No (Mr. Cox)

A transfer of \$4,000 from the Sheriff's budget 04-1107 (deputy salary) to 04 2000 (car maintenance) was approved. The motion by Mr. Thomas seconded by Mr. Bailes and carried.

Council also approved the transfer of \$1,200 from the Solicitor's budget code 16 1701 (in county travel) to 16 1801 (out of county travel) for car rental and \$1,600 from the same code to 16 4100 (telephone account). Motion by Mr. Thomas seconded by Mr. Bailes.

It was reported by Mr. Herring that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has agreed to construct fireproof office space for the Probate Judge's Office adjacent to the present office in the indented apace at the courthouse and to allow this department to use the former private office used by the sheriff. He moved for the Purchasing Director and Building Inspector to proceed with this and get a cost estimate for the approximate 9' x 20' structure. Funds for this project will be included in the 1978-79 budget. Mr. Moore seconded Mr. Herring's motion and it was unanimously carried.

Councilman Hercial Moore submitted his resignation effective April 15, 1978. He will be assuming the position of S.C. Highway Commissioner.

It was announced by Mr. Crain that the Roads and Transportation Committee has agreed to hold up, for the present, the construction of the extension of "Razorback Lane" leading to the Walhalla High School.

Ordinance #78-2 "Reorganization of the Sewer Commission" was passed on 1st reading upon a motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas. The vote was 8 Yes and 0 No

The house parents at the children's home resigned effective February 28 and the governing board of the home recommended their replacement be the David Kaylers, Gastonia, N.C. Mr. Bailes moved to approve the recommendation, Mr. Herring seconded and it was approved. Mr. Bailes moved to disapprove the request by Mr. Cox that Mrs Phillips who resigned from the children's home be paid \$30.00 which represented a six month raise for her. Mr. Moore seconded and it was tabled.

Mr. Cox then moved to approve the job description of the Administrative Assistant to the Sheriff, raising her salary from \$8,218 to \$9,060, retroactive to October 1, 1977. Mr. Herring seconded. It was then requested by Mr. Bailes this be tabled until next meeting the vote 7 Yes and 1 No (Mr. Herring)

It was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Bailes and carried to go into executive session to discuss the sewer treatment plant contract. After discussion the meeting was resumed and Mr. Bailes moved to sign the contract and to authorize Piedmont Engineers to approve bids. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was approved.

Before the executive session the following action was also taken:

Mr. Thomas moved to fund monies to cover the fringe in the transfer of Asst. Investigator James Thomas from S.C. Retirement to Police Officers Retirement. Mr. Moore seconded and it was agreed.

Mr. Frady urged Department Heads to return to the Purchasing Department a list of persons authorized to make purchases. He also moved to transfer \$600.00 from 56-1101L (Clerk salary) to 56-4100L telephone acct. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was carried

Meeting adjourned at 5.40 P.M.